

Region 8



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Fall 2004

EPI-WATCH

The Epidemiology Newsletter for Region 8

Region 8: Benton-Franklin Health District, Klickitat County Health Department, Walla Walla County Health Department, Yakima Health District

Hot Topics in Communicable Disease



Mass Vaccination Influenza Clinic

From October 11th to the 15th, the Benton-Franklin Health District (BFHD) will be having a mass influenza vaccination clinic at the Trade, Recreation, and Agricultural Center (TRAC) located in Pasco, WA. The clinic will provide a practical and beneficial service to the community by vaccinating a substantial portion of the population prior to the onset of "flu season". Additionally, it will also serve as a means for the BFHD staff to train in the following areas:

- Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) management. SNS is a federal program used to deliver critical medical supplies to the location of a public health emergency;
- the Incident Command System (ICS), a management system that facilitates organizing and utilizing personnel, facilities, equipment, and communications in the event of an emergency, and;
- Coordination between BFHD staff and volunteers during clinic operations as preparation for an actual public health emergency.



Front entrance of TRAC:

<http://www.traonline.com/Images/Pics/phpslideshow.php?directory=park¤tPic=4>

Volunteers from BFHD, local hospitals, surrounding counties, and community organizations will staff the clinic. An estimated 10,000 vaccinations are planned to be administered during this week-long event.

Clinic Hours

10am-7pm	7am-7pm	7am-7pm	7am-7pm	7am-3pm
October 11 th	October 12 th	October 13 th	October 14 th	October 15 th
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday

Expected cost is for the flu vaccination will be \$19.

FluMist will not be available at the clinic as an alternative to injection-administered vaccine. Please contact the Benton-Franklin Health District at (509) 943-2614 or your primary healthcare provider for this option.

Yakima Health District

Influenza Update 2004: Putting Recommendations into Practice.

Who: Healthcare Providers, Office Managers, Nurses, MAs, Pharmacists.

When: 22 September 2004

7am-9am for Continental Breakfast

Where: Yakima Regional Hospital Auditorium
110 S 9th Ave, Yakima

Presentation Highlights

- Summary of the latest recommended childhood and immunization schedule and how to put the new guidelines into practice
- Alleviating burdens in private practice: dealing with numerous office visits in short time periods, optimal reimbursement and coding, vaccine shortages, and order confirmation
- Discussion and presentation material will include: ways to plan and prepare for this unique vaccination campaign; organizing, prioritizing, and querying by CPT/ICD-9 codes; ensuring vaccine supply, etc

RSVP to Darlene Agnew via email at Darlene.agnew@co.yakima.wa.us or via fax at (509)249-6614.

Please include the number of participants registering.

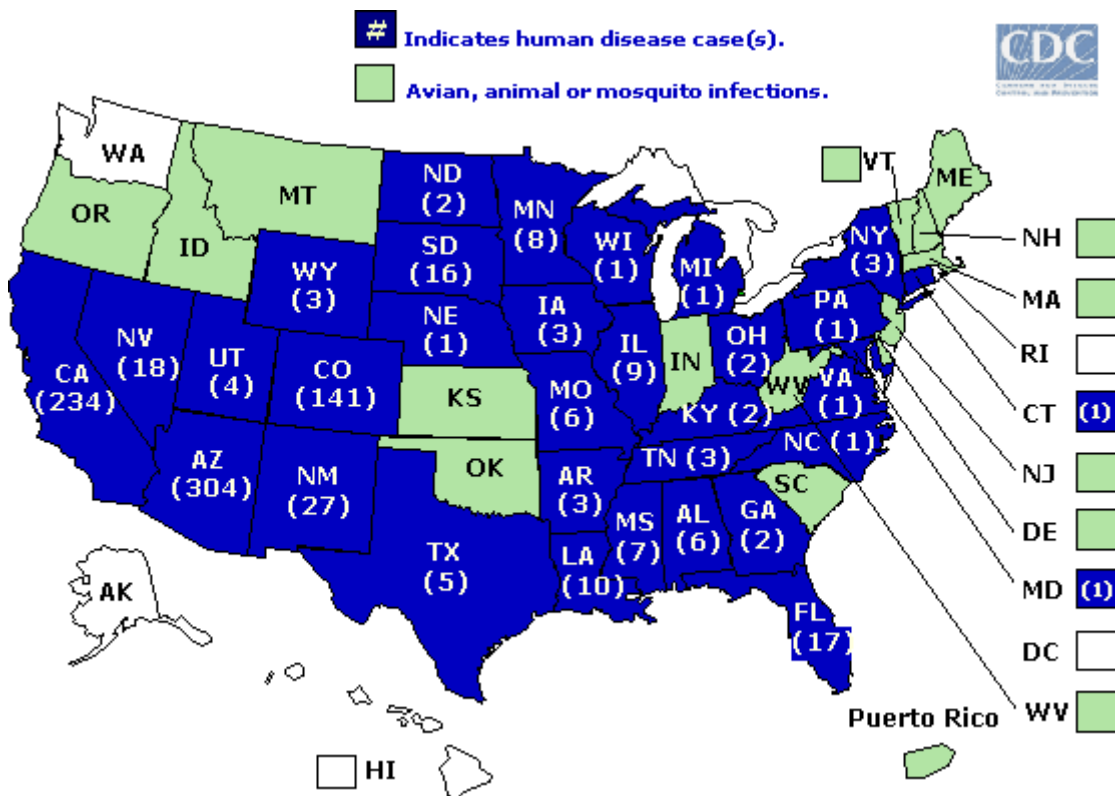
RSVP by 15 September 2004.

Arboviral Diseases Added to Notifiable Conditions

Under an emergency rule, the Washington State Department of Health has added Arboviral Diseases as a notifiable condition on the 4th of August for a period of 120 days with the aim of having arboviral diseases reported permanently. This is designed to link Washington's reporting requirements with national standards for reporting of Arboviral Diseases. Surveillance and reporting of Arboviral Diseases will give us a better understanding of the potential impact of these diseases, especially West Nile Virus (WNV) infection, on the population and the healthcare and public health systems of Washington. Furthermore, effective Arboviral Disease surveillance will enhance intervention and education programs throughout the state.

For more information, please see the Department of Health WNV newsletter at: <http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/ts/Zoo/WNV/Newsletters/8-20-04wnv.pdf>

West Nile Virus in Washington?



(reported to CDC as of 24 August 2004)

West Nile Virus (WNV) has been detected in a bird in Malheur County, Oregon and a horse in Canyon County, Idaho. As of August 17th, WA DOH has tested 13 horses, 213 birds, and 274 mosquito pools—all negative.

To better protect yourself from WNV, remember the **4 D's**:

- **Dress**--When you are outside, try to dress in long sleeves and pants. For added protection, you may want to spray your clothing with repellent (make to sure to follow manufacturer's directions.)
- **Dusk/Dawn**--This is the time that the mosquitoes are considered to be active, so if possible try to stay indoors or limit your time outside. If you intend to stay outside for an extended amount of time, try wearing long sleeves and pants.
- **DEET**--This is the active ingredient found in mosquito repellent and is very effective, consider DEET when going outside. A higher percentage of DEET in a repellent does not mean that your protection is better, just that it will last longer.
- **DRAIN**--Get rid of mosquito breeding sites by emptying standing water from flower pots, buckets and barrels. Change the water in pet dishes and replace the water in bird baths weekly. Keep children's wading pools empty and on their sides when they aren't being used.

Online Resources

Benton-Franklin Health District:

<http://www.bfhd.wa.gov/base/index.php>

BFHD Communicable Disease Statistics:

<http://www.bfhd.wa.gov/bio/epi.php>

Klickitat County Health District:

<http://www.klickitatcounty.org/health/>

Walla Walla County Health District:

<http://www.co.walla-walla.wa.us/Departments/health/health.htm>

Yakima Health District:

<http://www.co.yakima.wa.us/health/default.html>

Washington State Department of Health:

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/>

WSDOH Notifiable Conditions:

<http://www.doh.wa.gov/Notify/list.htm>

For further information and for requests on obtaining this newsletter, comments, and article submission, please contact:

Ron Largusa

Region 8 Public Health Emergency Preparedness & Response

Benton-Franklin Health District

100 N. Fruitland, Suite D

Kennewick, WA 99336

Phone: (509) 586-0673, Ext. 2

Fax: (509) 582-0164

ronl@bfhd.wa.gov

Region 8 Staff

Harvey Crowder DVM, MS, Regional Emergency Response Coordinator

Barbara Andrews BS, RS, Disease Surveillance Specialist--Yakima

Leslie Koenig MPH, Regional Learning Specialist

John Franco MPH, Epidemiology Response Coordinator

Ron Largusa MSPH, Epidemiologist